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THE Board of Public Safety is principally engaged in trying to save the Democratic ticket.

valve-a kind of Board of Public Safety valve, as it were. THE scheme for the repeal of the nat-

POLITICS sometimes acts as a safety

ural-gas ordinance and the increase of rates is developing in fine shape.

NOTWITHSTANDING the alleged rapid exhaustion of natural gas, the loca holders of large blocks of stock are not selling. On the contrary, their brokers are buying.

THE present city administration has done one thing beyond a doubt. It has demonstrated the necessity of reform in the city government before it has been in power six months.

REPUBLICANS regret that Governor Campbell should have the chills now, so that he cannot take the stump, but they know that he will have them in Novem ber, and will be glad of it.

If the Democratic members of th police force showed half as much zeal in enforcing the law as they do in electioneering for Mayor Sullivan the city would be the gainer in every way.

THREE years ago the cry was, "the ordinance, the ordinance is the thing. Now there is a combined movement for the repeal of the ordinance, and the cry is, "The meter, the meter is the thing."

THE increase of \$5,000,000 in the na tional bank circulation since the exten sion of the four-and-a-half-per-cent bonds has been made largely by banks in the Western and Southern States But this fact will only make the People's party leaders more indignant.

Is the Board of Public Safety were disposed to do its duty Superintendent Colbert would be brought to book for openly meddling in politics, and if he did not turn over a new leaf he would be discharged. It is more likely however, that he has instructions from

THERE is trouble in the People's party in Ohio. The party organ, the Cincinnati Post, charges that H. F. Barnes, the chairman of the State central committee, is either a fool or a traitor, because he has sent out notices to the effect that none but cranks can expect more than 25,000 votes in Ohio this year.

INSTEAD of adopting civil-service rules for the appointment of city employes "without regard to political opinions or services," as the charter requires, the Board of Public Safety seem to have adopted a rule requiring them to shut their eyes to violations of the law and work for the Democratic ticket.

THE People's party in Texas demands that sub-treasuries be established in every State, so that the people can have more money. As there is no means by which they can get money from the public treasuries legitimately, this demand causes one to suspect that these Texas fiat-money people intend to "hold up" those institutions.

In order to harmonize things it might be advisable to have the city charter amended so as to make the chairman of the Democratic city committee and the president of the street-railroad company co-ordinate branches of the city government. If this is done we submit that their salaries ought not to be raised while they continue in office.

Mayor Sullivan is ready to do what he can to make the condition of city affairs known to the people of Indianapolis, but it is practically confessed by the committee and himself that he cannot and dare not stand up in public and | but we protest that he is entitled to as defend his own administration. This is just what everybody suspected from the

THE shadowing of Mr. Herod by the police is about the dirtiest bit of lowdown politics on record. Of course, the object is not so much the hope of fastening anything disreputable on him,-because, so far as that is concerned, Mr. Herod lives an open life, -as it is to keep track of his movements and report them to the Democratic managers. By dogging his steps in this way Messrs. Taggart & Co. expect to be able to follow him up and counteract his work among disaffected Democrats. It would be bad enough if they employed and paid a private detective for such work, but to put the city police on it is a gross

WHAT has the Board of Public Safety done to earn their salaries? The Board of Public Works has been kept pretty | Board of Public Works and its newsbusy, but who can point to anything paper organs are bound to respect?

done by the Board of Public Safety? Its members receive \$600 a year, \$1,800 for the three, and if they have done the city 18 cents worth of good since their appointment we should be pleased to hear of it. Two of them are partisan Democrats and the third is a nonpartisan Republican. Beyond providing places for Democrats and doing the bidding of Chairman Taggart in helping to fix things up they have done nothing. As now constituted the Board of Public Safety is a mere political machine, whose only use is to illustrate how a city charter can be ignored and violated under the pretense of enforcing

A CASE OF DARE NOT. The refusal of Mayor Sullivan's train ers to allow him to meet Mr. Herod in discussion of municipal affairs is a clear case of "dare not." There is no reason to doubt that it was the first purpose of the Mayor's sponsors and keepers to have him meet Mr. Herod. Indeed, such was the intimation of Manager Taggart when he first returned from his trip to the north. Such were the intimations of several of the Mayor's friends before the return of Mr. Taggart. Why, then, this change of purpose? Why this weak ruse of a comparison of Republican rule in the past with the Mayor's management under the new order of things which the Sun has so effectually exposed? The answer is no puzzle. The Mayor and his trainers have looked the ground over, hence their conclusion. A first they imagined that with all the figures at his command he would have such an advantage over Mr. Herod that he could hold his own and even secure an apparent triumph. But as time passed and the Mayor's advisers looked the ground over, it became more and more apparent that it would not be safe to permit his Honor to engage in such a contest. Controller Woollen's figures, useful as they might be to a man with the capacity and alertness to use them. would not help Mr. Sullivan out. There would be ugly charges to meet, and pointed and incisive questions to answer. which no amount of coaching could prepare Mr. Sullivan to meet, answer or parry. Men of larger capacity and of sharper intellectual parts would find it troublesome to explain some of the dark ways and tricks of the Sullivan regime, but the Mayor, whatever may be his varied virtues, is not that sort of a man, and such is the confession of his trainers

and sponsors in their refusal to have him meet Mr. Herod. There are some very embarrassing features in the Sullivan regime. He may not be responsible for them, but unfortunately he is made their sponsor. The gerrymander, which the Mayor united with Mr. Coy to perpetrate, by which a large number of tax-payers have been practically disfranchised, is troublesome transaction for a straightforward man to meet. The reason for | the Alliance commercial convention in retaining a man in the office of street commissioner who, aside from being the most inefficient man for the place that could be named, insults citizens who appeal to him, would be difficult to give when demanded directly. The reason why the streets have been allowed to and seriously intend to confiscate get into a worse condition than they have been for years would be hard for | belong to them. He said that he was Mr. Sullivan to give. An explanation for the increasing of the salary list from \$26,000 to \$48,000 a year would require more skill than the Mayer has. The justification of an unusually large expenditure of money, making a large deficiency probable, would require more

The Mayor's sponsors, those who know his capacity and realize his limitations, have carefully canvassed this whole matter, and, as the result, decline to have him participate in the discussion. Thus they confess the inability of their candidate to stand forth and defend his record. Their refusal is their proclamation of his unfitness for the office of

skill than the Mayor commands.

INSULTED BECAUSE HE PROTESTED.

If people on the South Side or on the North Side do not like to have their streets neglected by the Board of Public Works they should beware how they dare to make complaints. It throws them open to such brutal onslaughts from the Democratic organs as this, from yesterday's Sentinel:

The door of the Board of Public Works office was open for a few minutes yester-day, and a wonderful thing in "pants" and red hirsutes "blew in." It jumped onto the clerk with both big feet and wanted to know why Jag alley hadn't been filled up. According to It's lingo such a malfeasance was a travesty on the spirit of the times. Clerk Parker modestly inquired if it filed

for the redemption of Jag alley. "Wow, wow, not by a d-n sight!" was the answer, in stentorian grunts. "Asked the board about it three months ago'n they said they would tend to it; bur-r-r-slap

It then proceeded to walk on its ear al around the room, and wherever it went glittering generality, resembling the tail of a comet, followed in its wake. These things often occur; in fact, they are bound to a cur-and yet, the world and the Board of Public Works wags merrily along.

by the Sentinel is T. W. Sterne, a car-According to Mr. Tom Taggart, penter, an account of whose protest against the criminal neglect of Linden street was described in yesterday's Journal. It is true that Sterne is nothing but a carpenter, and that he dresses no better than any other workingman much consideration as though be were John P. Frenzel himself. Instead of that he is contemptuously referred to as "It." as a "wonderful thing in pants," and as "a cur." It is true that Linden street is not filled with as handsome houses as North Delaware or North Meridian, but that is no reason why it should be spoken of as "Jag alley." It is not the Sentinel alone that is responsible for this outrage. It had no reporter on the ground, and must have gotten its grotesque account of Mr. Sterne's protest from the office of the board, and the clerk of the board remarked yesterday that he thought it was "done very well." And, doubtless, the Sentinel's reference yes

Have the people no rights that the

terday to the poorer residence streets as

"Hog-pen alley" and "Barn-yard boule-

vard" was inspired from the same

protest before this mighty body or its clerk without being outrageously insulted because he dares to state his grievance?

In reply to a circular addressed to employers of negre labor in the cotton and tobacco belts of the South, soliciting information in regard to the improvement of the blacks as manufacturing and farm hands, and the effect of education in promoting their efficiency, sixty-seven employers, hiring 2,413 negroes, declare with emphasis that they are steadily improving in workmanlike qualities; forty-three employers, with 2,279 negro laborers, take an opposite view, and fifteen are non-committal. On the question as to the effect of education, thirty employers, hiring 2,860 negroes, say their working power and value are improved by education; ninety-six, hiring 3,820 negroes, think education detracts from their value as laborers, while thirteen are non-committal. The figures are not conclusive on any point, but, coming from Southern men, they show a considerable degree of liberality on the subject. A generation ago hardly any Southern man would have admitted the possibility of the negro making any progress as a freeman, while the idea of his being benefited by education would have been hooted at. The fact that a considerable number of the Southern employers of to-day frankly avow a different view shows a gratifying degree of progress. Meanwhile, no matter what the opinion of Southern employers may or may not be, all the facts go to prove that the negroes are steadily advancing in race culture and development.

HARPER'S WEEKLY, while it clings to mugwumpism in general, expresses full sympathy with the Republican effort to secure the carriage of American mails in American ships in order to build up the ocean-carrying trade. It closes a recent article on the postal aid law as

The passage of this bill is an encouraging sign that something may be hoped from government protection to American shipping, whereas the past has been chiefly productive of congressional reverence for the "prairie schooner" and the "schooner with froth." It has always been a marvel that the government should be entirely satisfied to pay for mail transportation to the water's edge and not beyond. But per-haps the postal subsidy bill is the precursor of more enlightened legislation favorable to American shipping and ship-building interests. At all events, it is an important step toward the breaking down of an absurd prejudice against subsidies, more especially concerning ships. England has not only fostered ber commerce by subsidies of various kinds, but has thereby also established her supremacy as a builder of ships. Give the American mechanic the same line of government help and it will not be long before he will build ships as cheaply as his British competitor, and thus once more the American flag will carry to all parts of the world the fame of our ship-yards and ship-

PRESIDENT MCGRATH, of the Kansas State Alliance, created a sensation a Topeka, last week, by declaring that it is time that the People's party stop howling about calamity and advocating repudiation. He said that he received scores of letters from the East asking if Kansas farmers are really repudiators, everything in the State which does not weary of sending out contradictions of such impressions, and called for a surcease of the damaging rot about the starving farmers of Kansas and an honest statement of facts. If the Alliance accepts the advice of President McGrath the People's party will come to a sudden end in Kansas.

GENERAL MASTER WORKMAN POW DERLY is being criticised by Democratic papers for having accepted a Republican nomination for delegate to the Pennsylvania constitutional convention. Mr. Powderly has been classed as an independent in politics, and the organs are so accustomed to "independents" who assume the title as a disguise to conceal the Democratic proclivities they are ashamed of, that they cannot hide their surprise and displeasure when one of the number shows Republican leanings. It must be acknowledged that they have some basis for the claim that all socalled Independents are Democrats in reality, but there are exceptions to this rule, and Mr. Powderly appears to be one.

THE amicable settlement of the L. E. & W. strike justifies anew the Journal's recent expressions of confidence in the good sense and discretion of workingmen and their growing tendency to free themselves from the influence of mere agitators. Doubtless they might have written petition with the board asking | reached the same agreement at an earlier date, and with less loss and trouble to all concerned, but the coming together of managers and men even with so much delay is significant of a disposition to obey wise counsel. Both sides have made some concessions, and if agreements are carried out in good part more harmonious relations between the road and its employes will exist The gentleman so viciously lampooned | hereafter.

MAYOR SULLIVAN is either aware of the prostitution of the police force to partisan politics or he is not aware of it. In either case he is unfit to be Mayor. If he knows and permits it he is a party to the wrong, and if he does not know it he is too easily deceived to be trusted. It is the Journal's opinion, however, that he knows what is going on very well, and that he is perfectly willing to profit by it.

THE present indications are that only \$20,000,000 of the outstanding \$51,000,000 of four-and-a-half per cents. will be presented for redemption Sept. 2, as the rest will be extended at 2 per cent. A few days since it looked as if the figures might be reversed. In either event the treasury is prepared to discharge all current obligations.

THE value of the products of the manufactures of Massachusetts was \$871. 061.163 in 1890, against \$674,634,269 in 1885, and yet the free-trade papers are deploring the decay of the manufacturing interests of that State. It is a kind of decay which people can stand a good

REFERRING to the fact that some papers are still commenting on the platform which was not adopted by the

Cannot a citizen, humble though he be, Pennsylvania Republican convention the Philadelphia Press says: "The blunder was made in sending out Senator Quay's platform, which was not the one adopted. That draft was used as a basis by the committee, but it was vitally changed, and every effort of Senator Quay's friends to get his pet scheme restored was defeated, both in committee and convention."

In an article in the Forum George Haven Putnam, of the New York publishing house, endeavors to show that the charges of greed and oppression brought against publishers by authors are unjust, and that there is really a fair and equitable division of profits. In proof of his position he states that the cost of bringing books effectively before the public has greatly increased within thirty years, that this increased cost of distributing machinery has been borne by the publishers, while there has been no deduction in the rate of royalty paid to authors. He ingenuously illustrates this point by saying: "On the book published at \$1, on which the author formerly received a royalty of 10 cents, this royalty remains the same, but the net price coming to the publisher, in place of being, as formerly, 67 cents, is 6) cents, 55 cents, or even 50 cents." This showing will hardly do much to make the authors happy. They may be gratified to learn that publishers' profits are less disproportionate to their own than formerly, but they will not be convinced that they are not yet too large.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: Will you please answer the following: The case is an assault and battery. A has B arrested on a State warrant. Is A a relator in the case! B is found not guilty. Can the costs of the case, jury, etc., be taxed legally against A, who is a man of property and able to pay? If the costs cannot be legally taxed against A, will you explain the difference between a surety of the peace case and assault and battery! READER.

In an ordinary prosecution for assault and battery, where A has B arrested upon a State warrant. A is not a relator, but a prosecuting witness. In case B is acquitted, A cannot be made to pay the costs of the prosecution. In. surety-of-the-peace cases there is a statutory provision that, if the finding be for the defendant, or if the case be dismissed, or if the complaining witness fails to prosecute. "all costs shall be adjudged against the complaining witness." There is no such provision in ordinary criminal prosecutions. In many cases it would be better if there were.

THE combination of playful dog, man and shotgun is apt to be a bad one for the man, as indicated by two cases reported in the Journal's State news yesterday, in each of which the animal rubbed against the hammer and discharged the gun, shooting the owner. It is worth noting that it is always a loaded gun that a man leans on when his dog is frisking about his feet.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR

When He Used to "Fix Up." Mr. Wickwire-The next time that fool barber puts any loud-smelling oil on my hair I will break

Mrs. Wickwire-I rather like the scent. It carries me back to the days when we were courting.

Might Be Induced. Hungry Higgins-Queer notions people has. read in a paper the other day that London folks has a custom of puttin' a piece of money in the water when they gives a young one a bath. Weary Watkins-Well, I wouldn't mind takin' the chances on a bath meself if there was money

Wished Him Set. Mr. Summerboard-What are you up to, now? Mr. J. Hay Seed-Jist a settin' this hen

"While you are about it couldn't you set that "Set th' rooster? If that ain't a good one

"As I was saying, could you not set him fo about six in the morning! I am tired of being waked at daybreak.'

For Public Morals.

However strongly opposed one may be to President Harrison, politically, it would seem as if no one who has the cause of true morality at heart could refrain from applauding one of his most recent acts. This is his stordy refusal to grant the prayer of certain petitioners for the pardoning of Heywood. Several months ago this man, who is notorious as the leading exponent of the free-love doctrine, was arraigned before the United States Court in this district, charged with the offense of sending immoral publications through the mails. H was given a long and impartial trial and all the subterfuges known to lawyers were resorted to to save him from the penitentiary. All was in vain, and the offender received a righteous sentence of two years imprisonment, which sentence he is now

The same sentimentality which leads its votaries to decorate the cells of condemned murderers with flowers led to the presentation of a petition to the President for the pardon of this man. A strong pressure was brought to bear to effect this object, but happily in vain. The law which the convict deliberately violated was placed upon the statute book for the purpose, and this purpose was to preserve uncorrupted, so far as might be, the morals of the people, and especially of the young. A more laudable purpose cannot be conceived than this; a poorer occasion for the manifestation of sentimentality than this cannot well be imagined. True men and women, of every religious or political creed, should unite in giving to President Harrison the highest praise for his commendable position.

The Currency Issue.

By next winter it will be plain to the country that President Harrison stands between the country and the demand for free silver. His position on this issue has always been clear, and his Albany speech renders it equally clear that he looks on the day of compromise as past and gone. The country must choose between the Democratic party, which supports the unlimited coinage of silver, and the Republican party, which opposes it. There is no middle ground, and the struggle next winter promises to center the attention of the country upon President Harrison's defense of a sound currency.

The extracts reprinted this morning from Western papers approving the position of the President are nardly less significant than the words of the President themselves. They show that there is a strong and influential sentiment in that section which will stand by the President and the Republican party in the fight for honest money. With such support there can be no doubt that a sound currency will win.

Only One Honest Way.

New York Press. There is only one honest way of raising money, and that is by selling something, either your labor or some article of property, or by borrowing on satisfactory securi-There are various dishonest methods too numerous to describe. They all usually turn out in the end about as badly for the person doing the wrong as for the victim. The Farmers' Alliance can devise no scheme that has not been tried, from the leather money of Carthage to the assignats of the French and the confederate cotton bonds. In all cases somebody has paid the cost in the end, and nobody has been any

Why Should He? Philadelphia Record.

Objection has been made in some quarters because Mr. Wm. D. Howells refused to express his opinion on the occasion of Mr James Russell Lowell's death. But Mr. Howells's opinions are a marketable commodity, just like fish glue or baked beans. Why should he give them away gratis to the first comer?

The Farm Mortgage Lie Again Refuted, Brooklyn Standard-Union. Illipois has a State Bureau of Labor Statistics. This bureau has done the cause

of truth and righteonsuess a service by

the misrepresentation which Alliance orators have put forth regarding mortgages on farm property in that State. It has been said that Illinois was deep down in mortgages. Now, what are the facts, as shown by the labor bureau? Here they are: Number of acres of farm land in the State, 34,-081,180; of this domain, 7,966,566 acres are mortgaged. There are 90,389 mortgages. and the amount represented is \$123,733,098. The yearly product from these mortgaged farms is \$72,229,602, or about three-lifths of the principal of the entire mortgage indebtedness. In other words, the products of the mortgage farms for two years would more than pay principal and interest. This is a good showing. The agriculturists, as a rule, stand well in this country. The ripid growth of manufactories and increase in the number of operatives give a good home market, while improved machinery

INDIANA'S GAS SUPPLY.

er the feeder of the world.

and a fertile soil makes the American farm-

Delaware County Papers Deny that Wells Have Been Abandoned in That Region.

Muncie Times. If the gas wells in the Indiana field are failing, as stated in the Indianapolis News, perhaps it can explain why the Standard Oil Company and ather gas and oil syndicates are still trying to obtain leases in the Indiana gas field. The Standard was fairly repulsed in its efforts to secure and control the gas-producing lands in this section and it looks like it is now seeking after revenge through the columns of the News. When the statement is made that some wells in this part of the field have been abandoned we are prepared to say it is false. No gas-producer in Delaware county has been abandoned. We shall prepare and publish a list of all the wells drilled in this vicinity, showing their present condition and the service which they are now rendering. The inaccuracy of the News's statements in regard to the drilling of the first well in

this State is almost unpardonable in a paper purporting to be historical and truthful, but is in keeping with the misstate-ments in regard to the wells in this section generally. As to the use of separators in the wellsto separate the gas and water-there are none in Muncie or Delaware county, the gas being dry, and the little water appear-

ing in some of the wells being the result of overtaxing them, in some instances, it is charged, to discourage investments in gas As to the use of the separators in other portions of the Indiana field we are not informed, but here, where we reach the gas so much above the sea level, they are not needed, and, as said, there is not a single

Of course, if the writer of the articles in the News had cared to ascertain all the facts in regard to the wells in Muncie and Delaware county—we mean the wells that have produced gas-and his instructions were to publish only the truth about them, he could have found something gratifying and worth recording in fact that the first well put down Muncie in November, 1886, is still a good producer, showing no signs of failure, and sending out no water, and all other producing wells are still giving forth the valuable fuel with a good prospect of affording gas for an indefinite period. In short, the writer could have truthfully stated much that is highly encouraging in the Indiana gas field, and if he had been employed on a paper that regards the interests of the city in which it is published and the State from which it derives its support as paramount, he would have been in structed to pursue a friendly policy towards this great industrial section of the State, instead of a policy of hostility.

Suspects a Deep-Laid Plot.

Muncie Herald. We have seldom seen so many falsehoods crowded in so small a space as were in the article published in the Indianapolis News on last Saturday. It is very evident that the News has hit upon the most systematic plan that has ever been concocted to give Muncie and the Indiana gas field a black eye. The natural-gas har has been hard at it from the day the first gas well was drilled in the State, and Muncie, it seems, has been the center target. The News article on Saturday bears evidence all along the line of a deep-laid scheme con-ceived, not by the News publishers, but by some corporation that seeks to swallow the natural-gas interest and monopolize the entire output. * * The News, in its advertisement, stated to the people that a fair report would be made and the facts in every particular would be given. But to the astonishment of our people the News articles carry the coloring of paid adver-tisements, in the interest of the Standard Oil Company or some other company that wishes to discourage manufacturers and speculators from longer entering the Indiana gas field. It is plainly to be seen by all who are acquainted with the facts pertaining to the condition of the gas wells

that the reporter for the News either does not know the truth, or misstates the facts The News cannot find any wells that have been abandoned in Muncie or its surroundings, and further, the News cannot find a single well that was ever turned into the lines but what is making a fair showing and giving a fair output. Muncie is the most favorably located of any city or town in the belt, from the fact that the gas rock lies some eighty feet above the salt level. Our wells are dry and the gas is pure, while some of the towns in the belt are not so favorably located because the gas rock lies below the salt-water level. Muncie has no lack of gas, and we believe that in a square of five miles surrounding Muncie there is sufficient gas to supply every want in In-

diana for years to come. Wrong and Misleading.

Anderson Bulletin The Indianapolis News is devoting about three columns a day, telling what it don't know about natural gas and how rapidly the field is being exhausted and the wells filling with water. Whether these articles are published in the interest of the Standard Oil Company or any other company makes but little difference. So far as the Anderson field is concerned they are wrong and misleading, but can be of little harm. One important lesson can be learned from the News's gas articles, and that is that gas-line companies are yet busy leasing all the lands possible from the hoggish farmer and piping the gas to foreign cities.

Wrath in Grant County.

Marion Chronicle. The people in this section of the belt read the News articles with surprise and indig nation. The News writes itself down at ass when it impudently thrusts upon the citizens of Grant county a statement that every resident in favored community knows to be false. The only rational explanation of the course of the News in hiring an outsider to show that gas wells in the Indiana field are growing weaker, and in giving no hearing to the other side, is that the whole job was conceived and carried out in the interest of the Indianapolis pipe-lines.

The Tariff Not an Issue. Brooklyn Standard-Union.

The Democrats are talking around and monkeying with the tariff, but until they define themselves and tell what they are going to do, the tariff question is not before the country. The Republicans stand by the tariff as it is, holding that if there is to be amendment, it must be by the hands of those friendly to protection and of kindly intelligence on the subject. It is sheer folly for Democrats to go on vexing the air with cries of tariff reform, and at the same time offering for consideration no particular propositions. In the impending conflict in Ohio Gov

ernor Campbell would be very glad to talk about high and low tariffs, and month the accustomed denunciations of manufacturers at home as monopolists, and swell through the commonplaces that Mr. Cleveland seemed to believe were original and irresistible, but his kick against the silver plank only displays his anxiety and disappointment. The greatest of the immediate questions is whether we shall maintain the gold or collapse to the silver standard. Several months of the Democratic Congress will be required to afford information as to the business about the tariff law that the Democracy will present as an issue. Now they have nothing with edge or point touching the matter.

A Pretty Picture New York Recorder

A river of golden grain flowing out, a river of gold flowing in-that is the bright

FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS

Annual Address of President Baldwin Before the American Bar Association.

Review of a Year's Legislation-Able Paper by F. N. Judson, on "Individual Liberty of Contract Under the Police Powers." Boston, Aug. 26.—The fourteenth annual meeting of the American Bar Association,

the first held in New England, was opened this forenoon in Horticultural Hall. Nearly two hundred members were present. After Prof. Simon E. Baldwin, of Yale College, the president of the association, had called the assemblage to order a welcome was extended to the visitors by Hon. John Lowell, the president of the Boston Bar Association. President Baldwin responded, stating that the association felt pleased with the warmth of the reception accorded it in this old historic town. Though Philadelphia was first a city Boston long hung to the town system and its old and venerated customs. The president then proceeded to deliver the annual address, which, according to the by-laws of the association, must be a review of the noteworthy changes of statutory law during the preceding year. In opening his address Professor Baldwin spoke of the great diversity of matters treated by the federal and State governments, and said:

"Where is history more truly written than in the legislation of the times, and what new field of legislation is entered upon in this age, in any quarter of the globe, that is not soon known and traveled in every other? Here, in America, are fifty distinct, and, for most purposes, independent governments, each with a legislature expected and desirous to add something of value to the institutions of its people, and between which climate, and soil, and history have made wide differences of social conditions. There is the frontier territory, offering bounties for the destruction of lions and panthers; the river States, with their levee systems; the dry-season States, with their plans for irrigation and artesian wells; the South, with its 1gnorant and half helpless masses of laborers: one State, where commerce is a main object of regard; another where mining, another where manufacturng is; some rapidly increasing in wealth and population, some stationary, some going backwards; some still overrun with Indians, and some built up on usages and traditions that have been the slow growth of nearly three centuries. No land in human history has presented such a diversity of social forces working in different ways towards the same end, and under common principles and attachments. Our own country has not, before the past year, which brought the number of our States up to forty-four."

THE SECRET-BALLOT SYSTEM. Prof. Baldwin then proceeded, in a masterly way, to review the acts of Congress and of the legislatures of the different States, showing that twenty-nine States had adopted the secret-ballot system. On this subject he said: "John Randolph, of Roanoke, once said at a London dinnertable, that 'the adoption of the ballot would make any nation a nation of scoundrels, if it did not find them so.' The power to vote one way and talk another would make men hypocrites. It is a singular instance of rapid revolution in political ideas that within sixty years from the time of this remark England has adopted the ballot in a form securing the utmost secrecy; that the English form has been followed in a majority of our States; and that the last to retain the viva voce vote, Kentucky, having already abandoned it in her largest city, has now, by her constitutional convention, pronounced against it altogether in popular elections, and proposes to make the Australian system part of her fundamental law.

In closing he said: "There is noticeable in the legislative proceedings of many of the States a want of respect for the spirit of their constitutions, while adhering to the letter, which one cannot but regard as a serious menace to the perpetuity of our institutions. Obedience to law has no secure foundation which does not rest upon a certain reverence for it; and no people will ong revere what they see their rulers daily

"Our American system of government has been distinguished from all others by its giving through its written constitutions such guarantees of individual right as no sudden change in public sentiment, no sudden exigency in public affairs, could break over or break down. But constitutions are nothing unless they are enforced in the spirit in waich they were conceived. In them, more than in any other thing of human institution. 'the letter killeth.' The courts may be relied on for their faithful interpretation, but that our egislators may be equally true, can be secured only by the constant insistence on the part of our profession, as the great leader opinion, at least as put in form by legislative action, that no constitutional principle ought ever to be underminded or evad ed in statute law on a plec of public necessity. There is no necessity so imperious as that of supporting the Constitution to bar. Its formalities, its delays, its litigations are the best fruits of a thousand years of Anglo-Saxon history. The omnipotence of the British Parliament our fathers refused to reproduce on American soil, and it belongs to us to keep it out in substance, as

it is in form. At the close of the President's address. which lasted an hour and a half, the general council reported on the nomination of new members. One hundred and sixty names were presented, of which number 10 are from Massachusetts and thirty-one from Connecticut. There being no objection all were constituted members. A recess was

CONTRACTS UNDER THE POLICE POWER. At the afternoon session Frederick N. Judson, of St. Louis, read a paper on "Individual Liberty of Contract Under the Police Power." Mr. Judson, in part, said: "The police power of the State is said to be undefined and undefinable. In the words of Judge Cooley, it embraces the whole system of internal regulation. by which the State seeks to preserve public order and prevent offenses against the State; and, like the power of taxation, it pervades every department of business, and reaches to every interest and every subject of profit or enjoyment. have to inquire, in the light of recent legislation and decisions, what is the protection afforded the citizen by existing constitutional guarantees in the exercise of his right and liberty of contract, against the legislative determination, in the exercise of the police power, that the public welfare demands the abridgement of that lib-

Mr. Judson then reviewed the judicial construction of the federal and State courts of these clauses in the Constitution of the United States and the different States which protect the liberty of contract of private individuals against legislation. He referred to a very large number of important decisions. He also referred to the attempt of the agricultural class to suppress the manufacture of oleomargarine, and gave the decisions of different States in regard to the matter.

Referring to legislation in regard to trusts, Mr. Judson said: The so-called anti-trust laws enacted by a number of the States in the past few years years constitute another instance of the exercise of police power abridging the liberty of private contract. In so far as these statutes-and it would be impracticable within the limits of this paper to analyze them in detail-prohibit combinations for the general suppression of competition in an industry. they enforce the rule of public policy which the courts have already announced n numerous cases irrespective of the statutes. But where these statutes go beyoud this and prohibit anti-competitive contracts of any kind, contracts in partial restraint of trade, under the modern rule regarding such contracts, an interesting question would be presented as to the conclusivehess of the legislative determination of the necessity for such enactment in protecting the people against injurious monopolies. The right of free association, it will be conceded, is elemental in an indus-

talist. The importance of this class of legslation, however, is lessened by the facility of combination afforded by the corporation laws of the different States, and it seems probable that the form of organization at which it was primarily aimed will soon ap-

PRIVATE CONTRACTS.

Mr. Judson closed his address by referring to prospective legislation which might be had on private contracts. "The most interesting prospective legislation of this character, in view of present political agitation," he said, "is that advocated in certain sections of the country for the annulling of any provisions of contracts of the character now well known among money-lenders, stipulating for payment in coin of specific character. Statutes relating to common carriers or other holders of public franchises, statutes enacted in the interest of public health or public morals, or regulating the employment of those who are not sur juris, and other forms of so-called social legislation, however much some of it may be criticised as unduly extending the scope of State interference, have been omitted from this discussion, as it is the purpose only to consider legislation directly affecting the liberty of contract of those who are of full age and of competent understanding. In the words of Sir George Jessel: 'If there is one thing more than any other that public policy requires it is that men of full age and competent understanding shall have the utmost liberty of contract, and that their contract when entered into freely and voluntarily shall be held sacred and shall be enforced in courts of

"It is apparent to even a superficial observer that legislation of this general character, in the abridgment of the right of private contract, must tend greatly to increase in the near future. Notwithstanding the enormous advance in the condition of the working classes in England during the last half century effected through voluntary association in the exercise of individual freedom of contract-social legislation in England having been confined as a rule to interference with contractural liberty only in case of those who are not sui juris-the denial of free contract seems with many agitators to be the great panaces for social ills, and oftentimes the first manfestation of the strength of a voluntary labor association is in denying the right of free contract on the part of others.

"The rights of persons are indeed a paramount concern not only to the masses, but to all citizens, and liberty of contract is of these personal rights the most essential to human happiness. The force antagonizing personal rights is not the right of property. but the power of the State exercised in the ridgment of individual liberty. the broad construction of the individual liberty guaranteed by the constitutional bills of rights finds ample support in the history and circumstances of their origin as well as in the trend of the recent judicial utterances of our State courts, we cannot but be impressed with the directly opposing conclusion of eminent judges applying guarantee to the same state of facts. Judges who agree liberty of contract is protected by the Constitution reach radically different conclusions in drawing the line of limitation against the invasion of that liberty by legislative power. The difficulty is inherent and fundamental. As we have already seen the determination of what business employments are affected with a public interest the limits of the public policy which precludes individual waiver of statutory rights, even the facts of which the courts will take judicial notice in determining the validity of the exercise of the police power, are all left to be determined by the process of judicial conclusion and exclusion as cases may arise, just as in the language of the Supreme Court what constitutes due process of law must be determined. We are between the mighty opposites involving opposing fundamental forces of human society. Human language cannot formulate the expression of the precise line of division suited to the infinite complexity of modern life. Upon this question, of all others, whatever our written Constitution may provide, it is inevitable that our juristic conception must harmonize with the subtle yet all-powerful influences of public opinion, and with the conception of individual liberty which that public opinion sustains. If that is suffered to written Constitution can in the end preserve it against the only power which in this age threatens it, the power of legislative majorities. In this age, as never before, the price of liberty is eternal vigilance. As Mr. Lowell aptly says, 'to the whim, but not to the will of the people,' and in this broad view Mr. Madison has wisely declared that the bill of rights in a popular government was to declare political truths in a solemn matter so that they may acquire by degrees the character of fundamental maxims of free government.

NEGROES SEEKING HOMES.

Threatened Organized Invasion of the Soonto-Be-Opened Lands in Indian Territory.

GUTHRIE, O. T., Aug. 26.-A movement is on foot to colonize with negroes the Indian lands which are soon to be thrown open to general settlement. The movement has its origin at Langston City, the metropolis of the negro settlement, not far from here. The agents, 850 in number, of the Langston Colonization Society, are now laboring with zeal among their brethren in the Southern States to persuade them to come to the new country. Thousands of circuwhich we are doubly bound by our oaths as | lars have been sent out with the same obcitizens, and our oaths as members of the | ject in view, and to-day, at a meeting of the association, the following resolutions

were adopted: Whereas, From the most reliable information btainable we believe the new lands will speed lly be opened: therefore, Resolved, That we notify our people, colored september, and that those who intend to drive through to the Indian country to start at once. Resolved, That the 850 Langston agents hroughout the Southern States notify the ple of the importance of being here by the 10th f.September to join with us in securing new

nomes in the new lands. As a result of the work of the Langston agents in the Southern States hundreds of negroes who have already gone to Langston are being cared for there by their colored friends until the time for the invasion arrives. Many negroes are arriving daily, and by the time the lands are proclaimed open to settlement it is believed thousands of colored people will have arrived here to take part in the race for homes. The Langstons believe the government owes them homes, and they intend to secure them at any price. Most of the negroes are armed, and it is believed they will make an organized effort to exclude all but members of their race from settling claims; at least, until each negro has found a home. The organization is secret, and until today their objects and plans have been known to none but themselves.

Impending Battle in the Mountains. MOBILE, Ala., Aug. 26 .- There is no telgraph line communicating with Bladen Springs or the mountain fastnesses of Choctaw county where forty-five Simrites are in ambush, having sent word to Speriff Mosely that they were well armed and waiting for im. The sheriff arrived at Bladen, Sunday, with fifty men of the county armed with rifles, shotguns and pistols. He stopped at Bladen one night, and got all possible information concerning the location of "Bob" Sims and his gang of fanatics. It was reported there that the Simrites were coming to Bladen, but they did not come, and early Monday morning Mosley and his men started for the hills. If the Simrites made a stand there has doubtless been an encounter before this time. The home of the outlaws is eighteen miles from

Mrs. Harrison Thanked by Patriotic Sons. CAPE MAY POINT, Aug. 26.-The wife of the President to-day received a set of engrossed resolutions from the order of Patriotic Sons of America, at Believue, Ky., extending their thanks to her for her determined efforts in having nothing but goods of domestic manufacture brought into the White House and congratulating her on her American ideas. Mrs. Harrison has acknowledged the receipt of the resolu-

Forty Thousand Seals Taken by Ponchers. SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 26.-W. H. Williams, a special Treasury agent at Seal islands, Alaska, who arrived from the porth vesterday, left for Washington toony with a report for the Secretary of the Treasury. He reports that the total number of seals taken by the North American Commercial Company since Aug. I. 1890, is 7.254. It is estimated that poachers have